

or a second personal digital assistant (PDA) mode comprising the steps of:

- initiating a control signal;
- operating a second operating system in response to said control signal, wherein said second operating system operates said PC in said second PDA mode;
- accessing an Internet auction portal;
- setting a target price for a select auction;
- monitoring said plurality of third party bids automatically in said PDA mode;
- comparing each of said plurality of third party bids to said target price; and
- notifying a PC user if one of said plurality of third party bids exceeds said target price.

13. A method of automatically monitoring a plurality of incoming electronic mail messages at a personal computer (PC) wherein said PC is configured to operate in at least a first power state and a second power state, wherein said PC consumes less power in said second power state than said first power state, and wherein said PC is initially in said second power state, said method comprising the steps of:

- waking up said PC automatically from said second power state to said first power state;
- checking for any of said plurality of incoming electronic mail messages;
- receiving any of said plurality of incoming electronic mail messages; and
- providing notice indicating receipt of any of said plurality of incoming electronic mail messages.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said waking up step occurs periodically after expiration of a predetermined time interval.

15. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of:

- checking sender identification for each of said plurality of incoming electronic mail message from said receiving step against an approved sender list; and
- providing notice only if any of said plurality of incoming electronic mail messages has an associated sender on said approved sender list.

16. A method of automatically monitoring a plurality of incoming electronic mail messages with a personal computer (PC) capable of operating in either a first PC mode or a second personal digital assistant (PDA) mode, wherein said PC is configured to operate in at least a first power state and a second power state, wherein said PC consumes less power in said second power state than said first power state, and wherein said PC is initially in said second power state, said method comprising the steps of:

- initiating an automatic control signal to wake up said PC from said second power state to said first power state;
- operating a second operating system in response to said control signal, wherein said second operating system operates said PC in said second PDA mode;

checking for any of said plurality of incoming electronic mail messages;

receiving any of said plurality of incoming electronic mail messages; and

providing notice indicating receipt of any of said plurality of incoming electronic mail messages while said PC is in said PDA mode.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein said control signal is initiated periodically after expiration of a predetermined time interval.

18. The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of:

checking sender identification for each of said plurality of incoming electronic mail message from said receiving step against an approved sender list; and

providing notice only if any of said plurality of incoming electronic mail messages has an associated sender on said approved sender list while said PC is in said PDA mode.

19. The method of claim 16, wherein said first power state is a full power state and said second power state is a low power state or off state.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein said full power state is global system state G0, said low power state is global system power state G1, and said off state is global system power state G2/S5.

21. A method of accessing an Internet radio broadcast station with a personal computer (PC) capable of operating in either a first PC mode or a second personal digital assistant (PDA) mode, wherein said PC is configured to operate in at least a first power state and a second power state, wherein said PC consumes less power in said second power state than said first power state, and wherein said PC is initially in said second power state, said method comprising the steps of:

initiating a control signal to wake up said PC from said second power state to said first power state;

operating a second operating system in response to said control signal, wherein said second operating system operates said PC in said second PDA mode;

accessing the Internet;

identifying an Internet radio broadcast station; and

accessing said station.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein said Internet radio broadcast station is programmed into a memory of said PC while said PC is operating in said PC mode.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein said first power state is a full power state and said second power state is a low power state or off state.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein said full power state is global system state G0, said low power state is global system power state G1, and said off state is global system power state G2/S5.

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